

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3641

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 16909

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ETEL ITU GW GE US UK

SUBJECT: ITU LF/MF CONFERENCE -- BERLIN ASPECTS

REFS: (A) GENEVA 7801; (B) STATE 238900

SUMMARY. FRG REP AT OCTOBER 15 BONN GROUP MEETING
EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS REGARDING US-GDR AND UK-GDR
BILATERAL CONTACTS ON EDGE OF ITU CONFERENCE IN GENEVA.
END SUMMARY.

1. AT OCTOBER 15 BONN GROUP MEETING FRG REP (LUECKING)
SAID BONN HAS BEEN INFORMED BY THE FRG DELEGATION TO
THE ITU CONFERENCE OF US AND UK BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH
THE GDR. HE SAID US AND UK BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH
THE EAST GERMANS REGARDING BBC, AFN AND RIAS STATIONS
IN BERLIN WERE NOT WITHOUT PROBLEMS. LUECKING RECALLED
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THAT WE AND THE BRITISH HAD ASKED THE FRG DELEGATION

IN GENEVA TO REPRESENT ALLIED BERLIN INTERESTS AT THE CONFERENCE, AND SAID HE DID NOT THINK IT POSSIBLE FOR THE PROBLEMS OF EACH STATION TO BE RESOLVED WITHOUT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE PROBLEMS OF THE OTHER BERLIN STATIONS. BONN WAS CONCERNED THAT SFB COULD BE ISOLATED. LUECKING ENDED HIS PRESENTATION BY EMPHASIZING THAT HE WAS NOT MAKING ANY SPECIFIC REQUEST WITH RESPECT TO THESE BILATERAL CONTACTS, BUT ASKED THAT THE RISKS INVOLVED BE KEPT WELL IN MIND AND THAT FULL CONSULTATIONS BE HELD ON THE RESULTS OF SUCH MEETINGS.

2. UK REP (HITCH) SAID HE WAS AWARE OF ATTEMPTS BY THE GDR IN GENEVA TO MEET BILATERALLY WITH THE BRITISH, BUT THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THESE ATTEMPTS HAD BEEN REBUFFED.

3. US REP SAID WE FULLY AGREED ON NEED FOR FULL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION. THIS WAS WHY WE HAD KEPT THE BONN GROUP INFORMED OF OUR EXCHANGES WITH THE GDR ON THE RIAS 990 FREQUENCY. WE WERE ALSO AWARE OF THE RISKS INVOLVED IN BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH THE GDR IN GENEVA AND THIS WAS WHY WE EMPHASIZED TO THE GDR THE "INFORMAL TECHNICAL" NATURE OF ANY US-GDR DISCUSSIONS IN GENEVA.

4. DRAWING ON REF A, US REP SAID THE FRG MINISTER IN GENEVA HAD BEEN ASSURED BY OUR TEAM LEADER THERE THAT THE RESULTS OF US-GDR MEETINGS WOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO THE FRG REPRESENTATIVES IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN FULLY COORDINATED POSITIONS. US REP ADDED THAT US TEAM IN GENEVA WAS ALERT TO POSSIBLE GDR ATTEMPTS TO ISOLATE THE FRG AND WOULD TAKE APPROPRIATE PRECAUTIONS.

5. LUECKING EMPHASIZED AGAIN THAT HE WAS NOT MAKING ANY SPECIFIC REQUESTS BUT URGED CAUTION IN DEALINGS WITH THE GDR IN GENEVA.

6. COMMENT. LUECKING'S PRESENTATION, OBVIOUSLY ON INSTRUCTION, AGAIN EMPHASIZES FRG NERVOUSNESS NOT ONLY REGARDING ITS REPRESENTATION OF WEST BERLIN FREQUENCIES AT THE CONFERENCE, BUT ALSO REGARDING THE FUTURE OF SFB. BONN WOULD COME UNDER VERY STRONG DOMESTIC CONFIDENTIAL

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CRITICISM IF SFB WERE COMPELLED TO CEASE OPERATIONS. WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO EVALUATE WHETHER THE US-GDR SESSION SET FOR 1000 A.M. OCTOBER 16 SHOULD BE CANCELLED, BUT WE WOULD AT LEAST SUGGEST CONTINUED CLOSET CONSULTATIONS BOTH HERE IN BONN AND IN GENEVA. WE ARE ALSO INCLINED TO BE WARY REGARDING ANY FURTHER SESSIONS, UNLESS THERE ARE OVER-RIDING CONSIDERATIONS IN FAVOR OF SUCH MEETINGS.

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